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(41)

NEW CLAIMS

1) Store for stocking tubes therein comprising:

- means (4) for feeding tubes (1) into the store, and means (7) for unloading the tubes (1) therefrom, the store being located between said supply means (4) and said unloading means (7);
- a plurality of supports (8) each of which defines a plane inclined towards said unloading means (7) and able to receive a plurality of tubes (1) from said supply means (4): each of said supports (8) being movable between a stand-by position where it is empty, a position of transit of tubes (1) in which it defines an inclined plane which connects said tube-supplying means (4) to said tube-unloading means (7), and a stock position in which it is full up; each of said supports (8) consisting of a central bar or cross-piece to which more rods (81) are fixed orthogonally thereto and the said supports being connected to each other via two open side chains (85).

store characterized in that the said side chains (85) are connected to said bars (80).

2) Store according to claim 1, characterized in that the movement for disposing said supports (8) to said stand-by, transit and stock positions is developed in the vertical direction.

3) Store according to claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the said transit position is intermediate between the stand-by and stock positions.

4) Store according to claims 1-3, characterized in that in the said stand-by position, the said supports (8) result below said transit position.

5) Store according to one or more preceding claims, characterized in that, in correspondence of said means (4) for feeding the tubes (1), provision is made for a plurality of fixed chutes (11) oriented towards the store, and in that, in correspondence of said means (7) for unloading the tubes (1), provision is made for a plurality of fixed chutes (12) oriented towards the same means (7) and extending towards the store.

6) Store according to one or more preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises two pairs of uprights (82) which act as guides for said supports (8).

7) Store according to one or more preceding claims, characterized in that it has a variable geometry.